

From: Ed Urbaniak [edu@west-point.org]

Sent: Tuesday, December 09, 2003 9:22

To: adoptionregs@state.gov

Subject: Adoption Regulations Comments

As I understand it, the adoption regulations proposed will have a deleterious effect of international adoptions causing them to be more burdensome and hence more costly. I am currently in the process of adopting a child from Guatemala. Their current process is difficult enough with safeguards to protect the children. I have been subjected to an investigation that would prevent all but the most devious criminals from adopting. The DNA test in Guatemala ensures that the child is not a "black market" baby. I have been in this process for 15 months and my son still isn't home with me. I estimate my out-of-pocket expenses for this adoption will be between \$25,000 and \$30,000. I object to any changes that would make the process more difficult and more expensive.

Thank you for adding my comments to the record.

Sincerely yours,

Edward J. Urbaniak
Adoptive Father
West Point '89